27th November 1928]

Criminal Justice

Appointment of Mr. T. Pattabhiramayya Pantulu as Public Prosecutor and Government Pleader in Ganjam.

*725-A Q.—Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state— 11-45 a.m.

(a) whether there is any Government Order or practice that the same person should not be appointed as Public Prosecutor and Government Pleader in the same Court or district for the third term, i.e., continuously for nine years;

(b) whether the Government are aware that Mr. T. Pattabhiramayya Pantulu has been appointed for the third time as Public Prosecutor and Government Pleader in Ganjam;

(c) what are the special qualifications and special achievements of Mr. T. Pattabhiramayya Pantulu as Government Pleader and Public Prosecutor to appoint him again for a third term; and

(d) whether the recommending authorities in the district consulted any of the vakils or the Bar Association before pushing in of the recommendation of Mr. T. Pattabhiramayya?

A.—(a) Yes. The practice is generally as suggested in the question.

(b) Yes.

(c) Both the District Magistrate and the District and Sessions Judge recommended him as best qualified for the appointment.

(d) The Government have no information.

Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI:—"May I ask if the Government will be pleased to call for a report from the District Judge, Ganjam, as regards the number of eligible pleaders and advocates in the Ganjam bar for the place of Public Prosecutor?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M KRISHNAN NAYAR:—"The Government will consider my friend's suggestion, Sir, when the time for the next appointment comes."

Mr. K. KOTI REDDI:—"May I know then what is the good of this rule of ordinarily not selecting a man for the third time if the best man is to be always appointed? The rule implies that if the man is qualified, though not the best, he is to be appointed?"

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"I am afraid the hon. Member is arguing."

Appointment of Mr. T. Pattabhiramayya Pantulu as Public Prosecutor and Government Pleader in Ganjam before the expiry of his term of office.

*725-B Q.—Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) when the last term of Mr. T. Pattabhiramayya Pantulu as Public Prosecutor and Government Pleader in Ganjam expired;

(b) when the report of the District Magistrate reached the Government about the vacancy and when the Government passed orders reappointing Mr. T. Pattabhiramayya Pantulu;

[27th November 1928

(c) the reasons why the Government were in a hurry to make the appointment before the term of Mr. T. Pattabhiramayya actually expired; and

(d) whether it is a fact that Mr. W. O. Newsam wrote a demi-official letter to the then Law Member to expedite passing orders about his appointment ?

A.—(a) 17th June 1928.

(b) & (c) The recommendations of the District Magistrate and the District and Sessions Judge, Ganjam, were submitted to Government on the 16th April 1928, as the District and Sessions Judge would be away when the office of Government Pleader and Public Prosecutor was to terminate, namely, during the recess of his Court which commenced on the 30th April 1928. The orders of Government thereon were passed on the 17th April 1928.

(d) No.

Forests

Appointment of a committee to enquire into the grievances of ryots in forest areas.

* 726 Q.—Mr. A. B. Shetty: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state whether the Government propose to appoint a committee to enquire into the grievances of the ryots in forest areas in accordance with the resolution passed in the Council on the 6th September 1928 ?

A.—The hon. Member's attention is invited to the answer given to Legislative Council Question No. 559 on 12th October 1928. The matter is still under consideration.

Mr. A. B. Shetty :—"May I know whether the appointment of the committee itself is under consideration or the terms of reference ?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar :—"The appointment of the committee itself is under consideration."

Mr. A. Kaleswara Rao :—"May I know how long it will be under consideration ?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar :—"I cannot say, Sir."

Railways

Schemes for the extension of railway communications by the South Arcot District Board.

* 727 Q.—Mr. Basheer Ahmad Sayeed : Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether the District Board of South Arcot has any and if so, what interest in the profits, control and administration of the new railway line opened between Cuddalore and Vriddachalam ; and

(b) whether the District Board of South Arcot had at any time put forth any scheme or schemes to extend the railway communications on its own responsibility within the district, and if so, what became of such schemes eventually ?